

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment and allowance are respectfully requested.

This amendment corrects the citation of Applicant's issued patent that appears on page 1 before line 1.

The claims are amended to overcome the objections made to lack of antecedent basis. To this end, claim 76 is amended to recite a device active area (and thereby remove the objections to claims 86 and 91) and claims 82 and 83 are amended to provide antecedent basis for the resistivity-lowering bodies.

Claims 94-104 are cancelled to thereby reduce the number of issues for consideration.

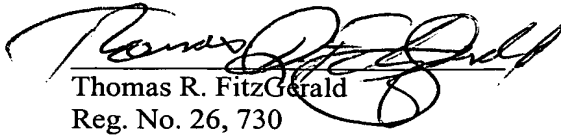
Claim 76 is amended to define the recesses as occurring between the planar regions of the second surface. Claim 76 always recited a second surface and recesses. In the rejection of the claims, the Okabe reference was cited for allegedly showing recesses in a second surface. That is incorrect. Instead, Okabe show an abraded surface or a surface that is a set of irregular peaks and valleys.

Claim 76 is also amended to more positively recite the highly doped drain region that is formed in the second surface. The drain region is diffused from the second surface into the substrate and each point in any plane parallel to the second surface has the same concentration. This is a well know characteristic of diffusion of dopants into a planar surface and thus raises no new issues.

Claim 76 is patentable over the art of record. Okabe fails to show or suggest a second surface with planar regions separated by recesses that extend below the plane. Kubo is distinguished on two grounds. The rejection admits that Kubo does not fill the grooves 11. In addition, Kubo creates his N+ layer 12 after the grooves 11 are formed and not the reverse as called for in the claim.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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